

Application/Control Number: 09/499,984

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1. (Twice Amended) A motor vehicle headlamp, comprising a light source, a reflector having first and second focal regions, and a converging lens, the light source being located in the first focal region and the lens possessing a focus situated in the second focal region, the reflector and the lens having axes which are essentially coincident defining an optical axis of the headlamp, the reflector comprising a first area extending in the vicinity of an axial vertical plane, said first area generating, in a focal plane of the lens, images of the light source having centers which are substantially offset with respect to the focus of the lens, the reflector further comprising two second areas which are situated on either side of said first area for generating, in the focal plane of the lens, second images of the light source having centers which pass close to or onto the focus of the lens, whereby the headlamp generates a light beam exhibiting high intensity along the optical axis and a limited extension below the optical axis.

2. (Amended) A headlamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein the centers of the images of the light source which are generated by the first area in the focal plane of the lens are offset laterally with respect to the focus of the lens.

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3. (Twice Amended) A headlamp as claimed in claim 2, wherein the reflector possesses, in correspondence with a reference focus situated in the vicinity of the light source, a vertical focusing area extending substantially horizontally and transversely to the optical axis, substantially at the height of the optical axis, wherein the first area of the reflector reflects the radiation towards regions of the focusing area which are remote from the optical axis, and wherein the second areas of the reflector reflect the radiation towards a region of the focusing area situated in the vicinity of the optical axis.

4. (Twice Amended) A headlamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein the centers of the images of the light source which are generated by the first area in the focal plane of the lens are offset downwards with respect to a horizontal line passing through the focus of the lens.

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5. (Twice Amended) A headlamp as claimed in claim 4, wherein the reflecting surface of the reflector is constructed from axisymmetric ellipsoidal sections possessing a first reference focus situated in the vicinity of the light source and a second reference focus situated in a vertical focusing area extending substantially horizontally and transversely to the optical axis, substantially at the height thereof, and wherein the first area possesses a part situated above the optical axis and a reference focus or a set of reference focuses of which is situated behind a reference focus or behind a set of reference focuses of the second areas, and a part situated below the optical axis and a reference focus or a set of reference focuses of which is situated in front of said reference focus or of said set of reference focuses of the second areas.

6. A headlamp as claimed in claim 5, wherein, within the first area, the position of the reference focuses varies progressively in proportion with the lateral spacing from the optical axis.

7. A headlamp as claimed in claim 5, wherein, within the second areas, the position of the reference focuses varies progressively with the lateral spacing from the optical axis.

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8. (Amended) A headlamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reflector further possesses two third areas situated respectively outside the two second areas, and wherein these third areas are configured so that the radiation which they reflect encounters the entry face of the lens.

9. (Amended) A headlamp as claimed in claim 8, wherein the centers of the images of the light source which are generated by the third areas in the focal plane of the lens are offset upwards or downwards with respect to a horizontal line passing through the focus of the lens.

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--10. (amended) A headlamp as claimed in claim 5, wherein at least one of the areas of the [mirror] reflector possesses a reference focus or a set of reference focuses which is offset upwards or downwards with respect to a reference focus or to a set of reference focuses of at least one other area.--

--11. (amended) A headlamp as claimed in claim 8, wherein at least one of the areas of the [mirror] reflector possesses a reference focus or a set of reference focus[s]es which is offset upwards or downwards with respect to a reference focus or to a set of reference focus[s]es of at least one other area.--

--12. (amended) A headlamp as claimed in claim 11, wherein the third areas of the [mirror] reflector possess a reference focus or a set of reference focuses which is offset upwards or downwards with respect to a reference focus or to a set of reference focuses of the second areas.--

13. (Amended) A headlamp as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a mask upwardly delimiting a light spot intended to be projected by the lens.

14. The headlamp as claimed in claim 13, wherein the mask extends with an offset, in the direction of the optical axis, with respect to the focus of the lens.